

## Update on Environmental Laboratories Rulemaking, August 1, 2006

The Environmental Laboratories Rulemaking Work Group (Work Group) met on May 10, July 12, and July 25 and considered three different versions of the draft rules for Licensing of Environmental Laboratories, 9 A.A.C. 14, Article 6 (draft rules). Through those meetings, ADHS and the Work Group were able to reach consensus on the contents of the draft rules.

On July 27, ADHS presented Revision 2 of the draft rules for consideration at the Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) meeting, along with a list of changes that had been identified for Revision 3 of the draft rules. After recommending several additional changes, ELAC unanimously recommended that ADHS go forward with Revision 2, as revised by the list of changes and the additional changes identified during the ELAC meeting.

ADHS is now in the process of creating a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to begin the formal rulemaking process. ADHS intends to file the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking with the Office of the Secretary of State by August 25, 2006. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking would then be published in the *Arizona Administrative Register* on September 15, 2006, commencing a formal public comment period. During the public comment period, ADHS will accept written comments on the proposed rules and will hold three oral proceedings to accept oral comments and provide an adequate discussion on the proposed rules. ADHS anticipates holding those oral proceedings on October 17 (Flagstaff), October 19 (Phoenix), and October 20 (Tucson). Information on how to provide written comments and the times and locations for the oral proceedings will be included in the Preamble to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will be available at [http://www.azdhs.gov/diro/admin\\_rules/envlabs.htm](http://www.azdhs.gov/diro/admin_rules/envlabs.htm) shortly after it is published on September 15, 2006. Meanwhile, ADHS is making available at that site a list of the changes made from Revision 2 to Revision 3 and Revision 3 itself, which ADHS intends to use in creating the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

If you have any questions or comments about this rulemaking, please contact Sarah Harpring at [harpris@azdhs.gov](mailto:harpris@azdhs.gov) or (602) 542-1513.